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INFORMATION REPORT

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2. [redacted] the production quota of the Soviet Zone coal industry was 843,200 tons for January, February and March 1951, but the actual production was only 772,220 tons, which was 91.6 percent of the quota. The declining production tendency continues despite the fact that an extensive mechanization of mining operations has been started. Officials of the Soviet Zone Government have conflicting opinions concerning this production decline. The Ministry of Heavy Industry blames the HV Kohle (Main Administration for Coal). On 12 April 1951, Ministry of Heavy Industry Fritz Selbmann sent a letter to the HV Kohle, accusing Gustav Sobottka, the chief of the HV Kohle, of negligence in achieving the ideological adjustment (Ausrichtung) of technical personnel and workers. He also charged that the mines have not been worked sufficiently. On the other hand, Sobottka charged that the government, and especially the agencies responsible for interzonal trade, delayed, by the belated approval of funds, the importation from the West of machines and instruments urgently required for the mechanization program. The fight between Selbmann and Sobottka seems to have reached its climax. [redacted] Sobottka will be the loser and presumably will resign on 12 July 1951. [redacted]

3. The reorganization in the mining district itself has not yet been completed. The technical manager of the Zwickau (N 51/K 34) Coal Administration is scheduled to be replaced by Dr. Zohl (fnu), who was proposed by the SED and BGL (plant trade union) management. It is also said that one Mehlhorn (fnu), the political officer, will be relieved of his position. New quota figures have been computed for the various mechanized mines in order to make possible the fulfillment of the quota for the second quarter of 1951. A written pledge for the fulfillment of these quota figures was required by the plant managers, plant inspectors, and BGL (plant trade union) leaders. However, [redacted] the production decline will continue at an even greater rate during the second quarter of 1951 despite additional mechanization, because of increased absenteeism during the spring planting season.

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Survey of Soviet Zone Coal Production For the First Quarter of 1951

Mining District and name of mine	Scheduled Production (tons)	Actual Production (tons)	Percentage of Ful- filment
<u>I. Saxon Coal Mining District.</u>			
<u>Zwickau-Oelsnitz</u>			
Karl Liebknecht Mine	340,800	303,060	88.9
Deutschland Mine	157,300	143,780	91.4
Karl Marx Mine	121,400	110,400	90.9
Martin Hoop Mine	176,700	170,240	96.3
Freital Mine	33,800	31,870	94.3
Total Saxony (Zwickau-Oelsnitz)	830,000	759,350	91.5
<u>II. Sachsen-Anhalt</u>			
Floetz near Halle	13,200	12,870	97.5
Total I and II, Soviet Zone,	843,200	772,220	91.6

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